Memorandum of Understanding

BETWEEN

INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH IN THE DRY AREAS (ICARDA)

AND

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
(ISU)

Preamble

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made between the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), Tel Hadia, Aleppo-Damascus Highway, P.O. Box 5466, Aleppo, Syria, and Iowa State University (ISU), Ames, Iowa 50011, USA, collectively known as the Parties.

ICARDA is an autonomous, non-profit, international research organization for science-based agricultural development. It is one of the 15 Centers under the aegis of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). ICARDA’s mission is to improve the welfare of people through research and training in dry areas of the developing world, by increasing the production, productivity and nutritional quality of food, while preserving and enhancing the natural resource base.

Iowa State University is a public land-grant institution serving the people of Iowa, the nation, and the world through its interrelated programs of instruction, research, and Extension. ISU blends existing and new knowledge to address problems of concern both domestically and globally. Through many partnerships, ISU participates in international efforts to alleviate world hunger and poverty and promote democratic and economic reform. These programs also seek to prepare students and faculty to be productive and responsible citizens of the world and to contribute to increased interchange and understanding between Iowans and members of the world community. ISU enrolls in excess of 28,000 students with approximately 10% being international students.

Whereas, both Parties believe that this collaboration is beneficial to their overall programs and useful in helping to meet their stated goals;

Whereas, ICARDA has already established similar collaborative linkages with other centers of higher agricultural education and research throughout the world;

Whereas, ISU has also established similar collaborative linkages with other international research centers; and

Whereas, ISU desires to increase its existing knowledge base regarding holistic natural research management and extension issues in order to increase its research contribution to that base and to internationalize its curricula.

Article I

Therefore, the Parties agree to initiate cooperative activities in the area of open and distance learning methodologies, crop improvement, biotechnology, climate change and drought management, and agricultural extension and outreach.

Cooperative activities may include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Joint research between ISU and ICARDA scientists conducted at ICARDA facilities in Syria and other locations, and ISU facilities in Ames and other locations.
2. Thesis and dissertation research by ISU students at ICARDA facilities in Syria and other locations, and ISU facilities in Ames and other locations.
3. Share and exchange research materials through appropriate Material Transfer Agreements.
4. Visits by scientists and presentation of lectures, seminars and courses. Visits may be in either direction and may be of short and long-term duration.
Article II

1. ICARDA and ISU will, in order to implement Clause 1 of Article I, jointly develop work plans from time to time.
2. The work plans will specify the collaborative project, funding sources, duration and modalities of execution of the project and delineate the obligations and responsibilities of ICARDA and ISU.
3. Both Parties will jointly and separately seek funding from third parties to support activities to be carried out under this MOU.
4. ICARDA and ISU will nominate project leaders, who will meet from time to time to develop the work plans and review the progress of their implementation.
5. The personnel designated for the execution of work plans will be responsible for fulfilling agreed requirements as set out in the relevant work plans, agreements and contracts.
6. Specific administrative, financial and operational arrangements will be agreed through the execution of appropriate agreements, as required.

Article III

1. Benefits such as improved breeding materials, machinery, designs and techniques, accruing or arising from this cooperative effort may be used by either, or both, Parties for their own internal, non-commercial purposes with due recognition of each Party's contribution.
2. Results from collaborative research may be used by either, or both, Parties with due recognition of each party's contribution.
3. Research findings as a result of the joint collaborative work of the two Parties will be published on mutual agreement of both parties in the public interest.
4. Research findings published by either Party will give credit to the other Party's contribution, but the Party publishing them will be entirely responsible for the conclusions and interpretation reported.
5. No prohibition of publication will be imposed by either party.

Article IV

In order to implement the provisions under this MOU, contact points will be nominated by the parties. The representatives mentioned below will serve as initial contact points.

For ICARDA
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ICARDA, P.O. Box 5466, Aleppo, Syria
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For Iowa State University:
Mary Holz-Clause, Ph.D.
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This Memorandum will be in effect for five years, commencing on the date of the last signature affixed to this document. At the end of this period, each party will review the types and extent of collaborative activities undertaken and determine whether or not the MOU should be renewed. The Memorandum can be amended, with the approval of both parties, by means of exchange of letters through the authorized officials at each institution. Either party may initiate the exchange of letters.

The Memorandum may be terminated by either party by giving written notice of the intent to terminate the MOU. Such termination shall not affect the execution and conclusion of specific activities in effect under terms of this MOU, nor publication and dissemination of results of research in progress. Insofar as possible, such notice will be given three months in advance of the desired termination date.

This Memorandum constitutes the entire agreement between parties. All prior discussions, agreements, and understandings, whether verbal or in writing, are merged in this MOU. For conditions of the affiliation not covered by
this MOU or for problems that arise while the MOU is in effect, both parties agree to refrain from unilateral action and to consult and negotiate agreeable decisions. This Memorandum is designed to facilitate and develop a genuine and mutually beneficial process of cooperation and exchange and is not a contract creating legal or financial relationships between the parties. The parties do not discriminate on the basis of age, marital status, race, gender, ethnicity, religion, or disability.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the representatives of the Parties duly authorized have agreed and executed this document in English in two originals on the dates mentioned along with the signature.

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)  
Mahmoud Solh, Ph.D.  
Director General  
Date: 27/02/2010  

Iowa State University (ISU)  
Wendy Wintersteen, Ph.D.  
Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Date: 3/12/10  

Jack Payne, Ph.D.  
Vice President Extension/Outreach  
Date: 2/12/10  

Elizabeth Hoffman, Ph.D.  
Executive Vice President and Provost  
Date: 2/16/10